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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,934	07/17/2003	Paul Anthony Ashley	AUS920020639US1	3072
32329	7590	04/17/2007	EXAMINER	
IBM CORPORATION			HUSSAIN, TAUQIR	
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
11400 BURNET ROAD			2152	
AUSTIN, TX 78758				
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS	04/17/2007		PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/621,934	ASHLEY ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Tauqir Hussain	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/17/2003.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-27 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. As to claim 19-27, In the light of specification on page 7, applicant has provided that applicant intends the medium to include transmission media as such claim is drawn to a form of signals and light waves. Carrier waves or signal (electrical or magnetic) does not fall into one of the four categories of invention and therefore, claims 19-27 are not statutory. Signal is not a series of steps or acts and thus is not a process. Signal is not a physical article or object and such is not a machine or manufacture. Signal is not a combination of substances and therefore, not a composition of matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 1, 10 and 19, recite "retrieving a set of parameters, wherein the parameters comprise domain identifiers associated with indications of whether to block transmission of cookies from servers associated with the domain identifiers". It is not

clear which server applicant is referring to, there is an antecedent basis for mentioned claims. Appropriate correction is required.

5. Claim 6, rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. It is not clear what applicant is meant by the phrase "multiple set of parameter". It is required from the applicant to provide with an appropriate explanation for the mentioned term in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-27, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grantges, Jr. (Patent No.: US 6,324,648 B1), hereinafter "Grant" in view of Datar et al. (Patent No.: US 6,351,812 B1), hereinafter "Datar and further in view of Rathbun et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0005308 A1), hereinafter "Rathbun".

8. As to claim 1, 10 and 19 e.g. method, apparatus and computer readable medium etc. Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially, including, a method for processing at a proxy server data transmitted between a server and a client that is operated by a user, wherein the proxy server communicates with the client and the server through a network, the method comprising (Grant, Fig.1, Elements-22, 34 and 38):

receiving at the proxy server a response message from the server for the client (Grant, Col.14, lines 29-31);

detecting at the proxy server a cookie associated with the response message (Grant, Col.14, lines 29-31, determining valid cookie means detection of cookie). Grant is silent on extracting from the response message a domain identifier associated with the server. However, Datar discloses, extracting from the response message a domain identifier associated with the server (Datar, Col.4, lines 16-22, where cookie issuing authority takes valid domain into consideration).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Grant with the teachings of Datar in order to for a participant in electronic commerce to validate his/her own certificate by accessing an authority that checks whether the participant's certificate is valid. If the certificate is valid, the authority embeds with the participant's terminal a block of data in the form of a cookie that includes a plurality of attributes indicative of the certificate (Datar, Abstract)

Further, Grant and Datar are silent on retrieving a set of parameters, wherein the parameters comprise domain identifiers associated with indications of whether to block transmission of cookies from servers associated with the domain identifiers. However, Rathbun discloses, retrieving a set of parameters, wherein the parameters comprise domain identifiers associated with indications of whether to block transmission of cookies from servers associated with the domain identifiers (Rathbun, Fig.1, element-24, [0023, lines 1-8, where server retrieves and decode the cookie and cookie inherently contains domain name or website address); and

processing the cookie at the proxy server in accordance with the retrieved set of parameters and the extracted domain identifier ((Rathbun, Fig.1, element-24, [0023, lines 1-8, where decoding the cookie means processing the cookie according to set parameters).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Grant and Datar with the teachings of Rathbun in order to access credential, where credential has at least one role-based attribute in common with the at least one client role-based access privilege, the client is granted access to the site. Alternately, a site owner defines a token access credential attribute and security file privilege for hierachal group access to the secured web site (Rathbun, Abstract).

9. As to claim 2, 11 and 20, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, in response to a

determination that the set of parameters contains the extracted domain identifier, blocking the cookie from transmission from the proxy server to the client (Datar, Col.4, lines 16-22, where not issuing the cookie is blocking the cookie); caching the cookie at the proxy server; and sending a modified response message to the client (Datar, Col.4, lines 63-67).

10. As to claim 3, 12 and 21, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, in response to a determination that the set of parameters contains the extracted domain identifier, sending the response message along with its associated cookie to the client (Grant, Col.9, lines 54-60, where cookie is sent to client).

11. As to claim 4, 13 and 22, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, configuring the set of parameters at the proxy server from the client by the user (Grant, Col.14, lines 46-52).

12. As to claim 5, 14 and 23, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, determining, prior to processing the cookie at the proxy server in accordance with the retrieved set of parameters and the extracted domain identifier, if the set of parameters contains an indication that the user has enabled cookie processing by the proxy server (Datar, Col.6, lines 37-47, where participant is enabled to accept the cookie).

13. As to claim 6, 15 and 24, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, managing multiple sets of parameters for the user at the proxy server, wherein each set of parameters is associated with an identifier (Rathbun, Fig. 1 and 2, [0021, lines 1-8, where three different credentials are multiple set of parameters); and

selecting by the user a first identifier that is associated with the set of parameters prior to retrieving the set of parameters, wherein the set of parameters is retrieved in accordance with the selected first identifier (Rathbun, [0017, lines 3-9, where client accessing the secure site for the first time is using the first identifier as http request]).

14. As to claim 7, 16 and 25, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, wherein the first identifier is selecting during an authentication operation (Rathbun, [0018, lines 1-3]).

15. As to claim 8, 17 and 26, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, selecting a second identifier (Rathbun, [0023, lines 1-2], where redirected request to secured site means selecting a second identifier); and

processing the cookie at the proxy server in accordance with a set of parameters that is associated with the second identifier (Rathbun, [0023, lines 2-8], where cookie is retrieved and decoded which is processed).

16. As to claim 9, 18 and 27, Grant, Datar and Rathbun discloses the invention substantially as in the parent claims 1, 10 and 19, including, wherein identifiers that are associated with sets of parameters are chosen from a group comprising a type of client device or a client location (Rathbun, [0021, lines 10-17], where client could belong to certain group, department, organization, city or state).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tauqir Hussain whose telephone number is 571-272-1247. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571 272 3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TH



BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER